



ISDH To Uplink Seminar January 4 On Public Health Emergency Response

State Health Commissioner Greg Wilson, M.D. is urging local health departments, along with medical and emergency first responders, to attend a special satellite seminar produced by the Indiana State Department of Health.

The seminar, which is being funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 4.

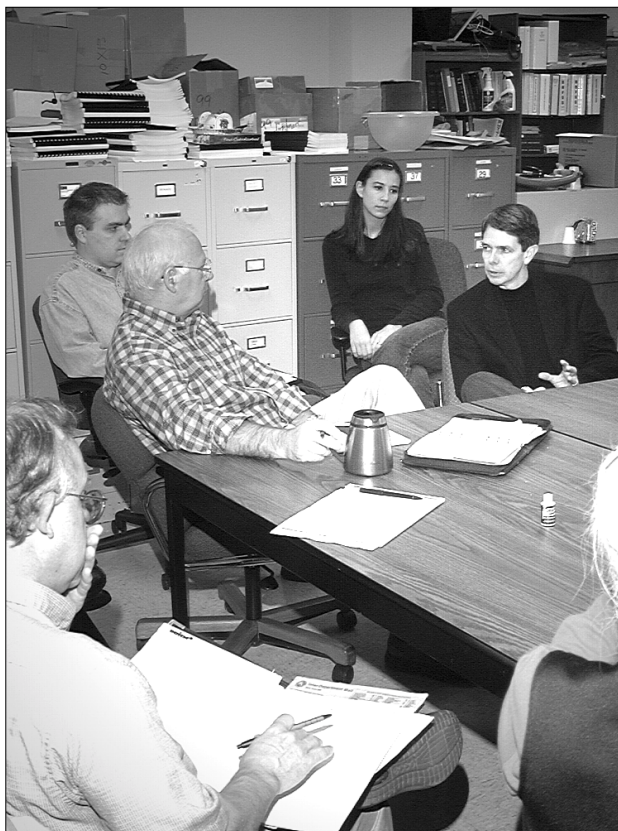
Staff from the State Department of Health and the State Emergency Management Agency will present information on threats from bioterrorist, chemical, and nuclear agents.

The seminar will be available for viewing at nearly 80 satellite reception sites around the state (**see the full list published on Page One of this issue of *News Link***). Participants at the reception sites will be able to send questions to the presenters during the telecast by phone, fax, or e-mail.

The seminar will also be available by video streaming on the Web, at www.ihets.org (click on "Hot!" link on the top of the page).

In announcing the seminar, Dr. Wilson said, "We are all aware that the recent acts of terrorism in our nation have heightened the need for coordinated response during public health emergencies.

"We have all learned a great deal during this difficult and challenging time about issues ranging from anthrax to smallpox. However, to be fully prepared, we all need to learn more about the types of threats posed



STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER GREG WILSON, M.D. (upper right) meets with ISDH staff to discuss details of an upcoming satellite broadcast to local health departments. The broadcast will communicate recommended emergency response protocols in the event of a chemical or biological attack.

Photo by Daniel Axler

by potential terrorist agents, ranging from biological to chemical to nuclear."

Dr. Wilson is encouraging local health departments to invite their local partners to participate, including hospital staff, local health care providers, firefighters, law enforcement officials, emergency management teams, and other entities that affect the public health of Indiana communities.

The telecast will originate from the main studio at the Indiana University Radio-TV Services in Bloomington and will be uplinked through the Indiana

Public Health Emergency Response Seminar Tentative Agenda

- I. Introduction: What We Have Learned
- II. Preparedness and Response
 - A. Comprehensive Emergency Management
 - B. Roles of LHDs

Question and Answer Session

- III. NBC (Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical)
 - A. Biological Agents
 - 1. Anthrax
 - 2. Smallpox
 - 3. Plague
 - 4. Tularemia
 - 5. Botulism
 - 6. Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers

Question and Answer Session

- B. Chemicals
 - 1. War Chemicals
 - 2. Industrial Chemicals
- C. Nuclear
 - 1. Possible Sources
 - 2. Principles of Radiation
 - 3. Signs and Symptoms
 - 4. Medical and Public Health Actions

Question and Answer Session

- IV. National Pharmaceutical Stockpile
- V. Mass Prophylaxis
- VI. Laboratory
- VII. Communication
 - A. Role of Local Agencies
 - B. Surveillance

Question and Answer Session

- VIII. Summary and Closing

Higher Education Telecommunications System (IHETS) network.

"Our goal is to provide reception sites in virtually every county," said Dr. Wilson. "In those counties where a reception site cannot be provided, participants will be able to view the seminar at a downlink site in an adjacent county."

ISDH Recognized for Public Health Video

The Indiana State Department of Health has received the 2001 National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) Silver Award for the video "Public Health: The Guardrail of Our Communities."

NPHIC comprises the public information officers of state health departments.

The award was made for videotapes produced by a state department of health with professional assistance.

The Associated Images Moving Picture Production Company, Indianapolis, was selected through competitive bidding to assist in making the video. Associated Image's Greg Williams produced the videography and provided technical assistance; Marla Williams directed and edited the video.

The video serves to remind citizens of the role that state and local public health departments play today in protecting the health of the public through activities supporting the prevention of disease and the promotion of safe and healthy living practices.

Margaret Joseph, director, Office of Public Affairs, says that the need to communicate the value of public health is clearly known among public health professionals.

"We wanted to create an informational video that would appeal to adults and children, so it could be used in speeches and in classrooms," she said.

"Our staff, led by our State Health Commissioner, felt that the end of the 20th Century presented a unique opportunity to show how public health had improved the quality of life for Hoosiers, especially since Indiana had been a pioneer in public health," Joseph said.

The video was distributed to all 94 local health departments in

Senate Bill No. 93.

A BILL ESTABLISHING A STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, DEFINING ITS PURPOSES, POWERS AND DUTIES, PROVIDING A SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION AND REPORTS OF VITAL AND SANITARY STATISTICS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND PRESCRIBING THE DUTIES OF CERTAIN STATE, COUNTY, TOWN, TOWNSHIP AND CITY OFFICERS IN RELATION THERETO.

HISTORIC DOCUMENT from the video prefaces legislation passed in 1881 establishing the Indiana State Board of Health, the predecessor to the current State Department of Health.



LOUIS PASTEUR, depicted in the video, is the scientist whose discovery that control of bacteria as agents of disease could markedly impact public health.

to save lives, making it a metaphor for public health," she said.

"Our own staff and their families were our actors, along with the health professionals at the Citizens Health Clinic in Indianapolis. We came in under our \$20,000 budget, which

included the dubbing costs for 200 closed-captioned copies," Joseph said.

To help hold down costs, Joseph says that she spent several weeks assisting the contractor with the writing, production, and editing of the video.

"I even drove the white car seen in the opening shots—marking my debut as a stunt driver," she said.

For those wishing to view the video, it continues to be shown daily in a continuous loop at the Indiana State Department of Health Public Viewing Room, where it has been seen by hundreds of people waiting to pick up Vital Records documents.



PRENATAL, INFANT, AND CHILD PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE are contemporary public health issues receiving attention in the prize-winning video. Above, the daughter-in-law and grandchildren of Pam Ayres, Office of Public Affairs, were among the many volunteer actors in the video.

Video edits by Dennis Rediker

Coleman To Leave ISDH Post To Head Bureau of Motor Vehicles



Gerald Coleman

Photo by Daniel Axler

Governor Frank O'Bannon has appointed Assistant Health Commissioner Gerald Coleman to be commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The announcement came on December 6.

Since 1997, Coleman has been assistant commissioner for health regulatory services, a position in which he oversees 300 employees who work in the long-term care, acute care, and consumer protection divisions. He previously served as the health department's director of risk management; practiced as a private attorney in medical malpractice

defense litigation with Ice Miller Donadio & Ryan; and worked as a nurse in Washington, D.C. and Oregon.

Coleman earned a law degree from Howard University and bachelor's and associate's degrees from Walla Walla College.

"Gerald's experience in overseeing three divisions at the Department of Health will behoove him—and all the people of the State of Indiana—when he takes over the Bureau of Motor Vehicles," O'Bannon said. "It's a complex job—working with license branches in every county of the state—but Gerald has shown the organizational and people skills necessary to handle it deftly."

Coleman will begin his new duties January 6.

Employees Express Appreciation for Realistic Sexual Harassment Seminar

The Sexual Harassment Prevention and Awareness Seminar is a required *annual* event for every employee at the Indiana State Department of Health—except for John Davis. He attends more than 22 two-hour sessions each year as part of his work assignment as ISDH training director.

During the two years that Davis has offered the training, he has experimented, tweaked, and refined the format of the oral and audiovisual content of his presentations, which now include new video-taped role-play scenarios portrayed with the utmost realism by professional actors.



John Davis

Photo by Daniel Axler

Separate scenarios trace inappropriate behavior from its initial appearance up to and including how it was resolved.

In talking with ISDH employees and reading some of their comments on training evaluation forms, which are submitted at the end of every training session, their general impression in this second year of the seminars is that the training has featured some important improvements and additions.

One trainee remarked, "I am one of those employees who drags myself to mandatory trainings, silently growling all the way. . . . However, today, I was impressed. The new video is . . . great . . . and . . . realistic."

Asked about the changes, Davis said, "I'd be bored to death if I didn't look for changes that would make the material more interesting—to me."

Davis looked at more than 30 video tapes, including those obtained from two public library systems and a number he ordered on free-trial through the mail, before he made a final selection

which satisfied him.

"There was only one video which featured cultural diversity, excellent acting, extended interplay between employees, and also illustrated a situation involving false charges and how they were resolved," Davis said.

He also tries to customize the oral portion of his presentations taking several hours before each scheduled training to consider what will be most helpful to the particular employees who have signed up.

One trainee's comments summarize the response of more than a few regarding Davis' efforts. "John did a remarkable job. He convincingly made the case for empathy and sensitivity to the feelings of others—a sound basis for eliminating sexual harassment. He's a wise and excellent teacher."



BLOOD DRIVE: Martha Bonds (left), Minority Health, talks with Jennifer Dunlap, Public Affairs, aboard the Indiana Blood Center's Bloodmobile as Dunlap donates blood. Bonds organizes a visit from the Bloodmobile at 2 North Meridian four times a year to give ISDH employees a convenient opportunity to give the "gift of life."

Photo by Daniel Axler

Trainings Held for Foodborne-Illness Sleuths

The CDC estimates that 76 million cases of food poisoning occur annually in the U.S., resulting in 5,000 deaths, according to Tara Renner, ISDH Food Protection Program. And Renner says that most cases go unreported, for a variety of reasons.

To help local public health department food safety specialists and public health nurses investigate and respond to reports of local foodborne illnesses, ISDH is holding a series of training days.

Two sessions already have been held November 29 and December 6, one each in Michigan City and Indianapolis. The third is scheduled for December 13 at the Holiday Inn in Jasper.

The trainings are designed to assist new local public health professionals and those who may not have received the training last year, to hone their skills in locating the sources of foodborne illness. Their goal is to network the information gathered to contain outbreaks.

Training topics have included

identification of disease agents, procedures for responding to complaints, collection of samples, and steps for conducting outbreak investigations.

Training is centered on reviewing comprehensive information contained in the "Foodborne Illness Investigation Reference Manual," developed last year by Renner and Pam Pontones, Epidemiologic Resource Center. A copy of the manual was provided to each local health department when the trainings were started last year.

Pontones and Renner have been conducting the training sessions.

"With the manual we've tried to create a 'leave no stone unturned' approach to help the local health departments," Renner said.

Pontones says that the trainings this year will also include an increased emphasis on communication.

"Communication is essential at all levels in limiting outbreaks. Our training focus includes intra-office communication at the local health department (LHD), so all the local



TRAINERS UNITED, Pam Pontones (left), Epidemiologic Resource Center, and Tara Renner, Food Protection Program, take a photo break from preparations to assist local health department professionals brush up foodborne illness investigative techniques.

Photo by Daniel Axler

staff are in the loop; communication between the LHD and local media so the public is informed; and communication between the LHD and ISDH, so the State Department of Health can provide any needed technical assistance and also keep an eye on limiting potential outbreaks statewide and regionally."

According to Pontones, increased emphasis on communication in the trainings was suggested by findings in the recent past where some local outbreaks had gone unreported.



ISDH Gift Drive


Employee Participation Welcome!

ISDH employees who wish to participate in the gift drive organized by the Finance Division are encouraged to pick a numbered tag from the Finance Division Christmas 'gift-tree,' located on the second floor of the atrium at 2 North Meridian Street. Each of 150 tags specifies a particular gift for one of the 116 physically or mentally disabled boys or girls in residence at the Heritage House Children's Center, Shelbyville, or for one of the 24 residents of the Bethany Nursing Home on South Shelby Street in

Indianapolis, none of whom have family or are expecting anything this year.

The wrapped gift with tag attached should be placed under the tree before December 21. Questions? GroupWise Sara Saypack.





Indiana State
Department of Health

Express

The *Indiana State Department of Health Express* is a bi-weekly publication for ISDH employees and stakeholders. To submit news items, call (317) 233-7336 or send information to: ISDH Express, Office of Public Affairs, 2 N. Meridian St., Section 2E, Indianapolis, IN 46204-3003. Inquiries should be directed to:

David W. Pilbrow, Editor
Telephone (317) 233-7336
Fax: (317) 233-7873
dpilbrow@isdh.state.in.us
<http://www.statehealth.IN.gov>

Margaret Joseph, Director of Public Affairs

Gregory A. Wilson, M.D.
State Health Commissioner

Michael A. Hurst
Deputy State Health Commissioner



Public Health Emergency Response Seminar To Be Available at Sites Throughout Indiana

More than 75 downlink sites will be available Friday, January 4 for local health departments and their partners to view the Public Health Emergency Response Seminar. The presentation is being produced by the Indiana State Department of Health and is being uplinked by the Indiana Higher Education Telecommunications System network from the IU-Bloomington campus. (For more information about the seminar, see Page One of the *Express*.)

Please contact the site where you intend to view the seminar at least 24 hours in advance to make sure there is adequate seating.

County	Location	Contact No.
Adams	Adams County Extension Service	219-724-3000
Allen	Parkview Memorial Hospital	219-484-6636 x2796
Bartholomew	Columbus Regional Hospital Knott Auditorium	812-376-5385 812-376-5250
Benton	Benton Central Jr.-Sr. High School	765-884-1600
Blackford	Blackford High School Library	765-348-7560 x153
Carroll	Delphi Public Library	765-564-2929
Cass	Logansport State Hospital	219-722-4141 x4794
Clark	Ivy Tech - Sellersburg	812-246-3301 x4125
Clark	Clark Memorial Hospital	812-283-2089
Clinton	Clinton County Extension Service	765-659-6380
Daviess	Washington High School Library	812-254-5536
Dearborn	Ivy Tech - Lawrenceburg	812-537-4010 x254
Decatur	Greensburg Public Library	812-663-2826
Dekalb	Eastside Jr.-Sr. High School	219-868-2186
Delaware	Ball Memorial Hospital	765-747-3915
Dubois	Vincennes University - Jasper	812-482-5909
Dubois	Jasper Memorial Hospital & Health Care Center **For Hospital Staff Only	812-482-0506
Elkhart	Ivy Tech - Elkhart, Room 130	219-293-4657
Fayette	Whitewater Technical Career Center	765-827-0553 x232
Fulton	Caston Educational Center	219-857-3505
Gibson	Oakland City University Wilder Building, Conference Room	812-749-1267
Grant	Ivy Tech - Marion	765-662-9843 x302
Greene	Greene County Extension Service	812-659-2122
Hamilton	Hamilton County Extension Service	317-776-0854 x115
Hancock	Mount Vernon High School	317-485-4104
Harrison	Harrison County Extension Service Harrison County Annex Building	812-738-4236
Hendricks	Hendricks County Extension Service	317-745-9260
Henry	Henry County Memorial Hospital	765-521-1543
Howard	Howard County Extension Service Room 101	765-456-2313
Jackson	Brownstown Central High School	812-358-4271
Jasper	Jasper County Extension Service	219-866-5741
Jay	Jay County High School	219-726-2000
Jefferson	Madison State Hospital	812-265-7447
Jennings	Jennings County Public Library	812-346-2091
Johnson	Johnson County Memorial Hospital	317-736-2635
Knox	Knox County Extension Service	812-882-3509
Kosciusko	Ivy Tech - Warsaw	219-267-5428
LaGrange	LaGrange County Extension Service	219-463-7808
Lake	Indiana University - Northwest	219-980-6829
Lake	St. Mary's Medical Center	219-947-6267
LaPorte	Ivy Tech - Michigan City 3 rd Floor Conference Room	219-879-9137 x225

County	Location	Contact No.
Lawrence	North Lawrence Area Vocational Technical Center	812-277-9251
Madison	Ivy Tech - Anderson, Room 203	765-289-2291 x324
Marion	IUPUI - Indianapolis Lecture Hall Room 103	317-274-2629
Marion	Methodist Hospital Pettigrew Auditorium	317-962-2298
Marshall	Marshall County Extension Service	219-935-8545
Martin	Logansport Jr.-Sr. High School Room 412	812-295-3254 x499
Miami	Maconaquah School Corp.	765-689-9131 x5500
Monroe	Bloomington Hospital	812-336-6821
Montgomery	Crawfordsville High School Main Office	765-362-2340
Morgan	Bradford Woods Center	765-342-2915
Noble	Noble County Extension Service	219-636-2111
Ohio	Rising Sun - Ohio County Schools	812-438-2652
Orange	Orange County Extension Service	812-723-7107
Perry	Tell City High School	812-547-9701
Porter	Ivy Tech - Valparaiso	219-464-8514 x233
Posey	New Harmony School	812-682-4401
Pulaski	Winamac High School	812-946-6151
Ripley	Ripley County Extension Service	812-689-6511
Rush	Rushville Consolidate High School	765-932-3901
St. Joseph	Indiana University - South Bend	219-237-4488
Scott	Lifelong Learning Center College Cooperative Southeast	812-265-2580 x4159
Shelby	Blue River Career Programs	317-421-0561
Starke	Knox Community School Corp.	219-772-1600
Steuben	Steuben County Extension Service Steuben Community Center Board Rm.	219-668-1000
Switzerland	Switzerland County Library	812-427-3363
Tippecanoe	Tippecanoe County Extension Service	765-474-0793
Tippecanoe	Ivy Tech - Lafayette Ivy Hall, Room 1103	765-772-9292
Tipton	Tipton County Extension Service	765-675-2694
Vanderburgh	Ivy Tech - Evansville	812-429-1472
Vigo	Vigo County Extension Service	812-462-3371
Warren	Warren County Extension Service	765-762-3231
Warrick	Warrick County School Corp.	812-897-6577
Wayne	Richmond State Hospital	765-966-0511 x4314
Wells	Wells County Extension Service	219-824-6412
White	White County Extension Service	219-984-5115
Whitley	Whitley County Extension Service	219-625-3313

'Taking it To the Streets' Van Seeks Youth Assistance for HIV/AIDS Prevention Effort

The HIV/STD Division is using a new approach in an effort to reach, educate, and recruit youthful urban and rural Hoosiers, aged 13 to 24, to Indiana's HIV prevention effort.

The vehicle for reaching youth about HIV/AIDS is literally a van



'RAD' VAN's eye-catching graphics have attracted youthful curiosity and served to break the ice in talking with youth about HIV/AIDS prevention in areas as diverse as Marion and Jay counties.

rented at a special discounted rate from Budget Rent-A-Car. The vehicle is covered with attention-grabbing images of bicycles, footballs, and soccer balls. Mega splashes of abstract wrap-around color draw attention to the hand-lettered "Taking it to the Streets" graphic slogan running halfway across each side of the van. Serigraphics, an Indianapolis graphic design firm, produced and applied the images, which can be peeled off at rental's end.

Cathy Archey-Morgan, HIV/STD, says they want a commitment of time from a group of altruistic young people to participate in a Youth HIV Prevention Community Planning Group. There are projections for 12 such regional youth groups in Indiana to parallel the existing adult HIV Prevention Community Planning Groups (CPGs).

Archey-Morgan says the van concept was developed to take the HIV educational message to where youth are, rather than try to draw the youth to a special group meeting place, largely because the latter

approach has proven ineffective.

Leads have been sought through school and youth group contacts, many suggested by ISDH staff and members of the HIV Prevention CPGs.

Members from two of Indiana's local health departments (one each from Elkhart and Marion counties) participate unofficially in CPGs. In cities and towns, across Indiana, youth organizations, schools, and churches have been contacted for leads on likely locations where youth can be found in numbers.

Archey-Morgan said, "We've tried to make it as simple as possible and basically say, 'Tell us where and when. We don't want you to plan an event . . . just point us to where (the youth) are. Are they at the mall? Are they at the McDonalds? Do they cruise an area? Are they at a park?'"

Archey-Morgan says that the van drew so much student attention, when parked outside Bloomington High School South during the student lunch hour, ISDH staff ran out of educational materials and giveaways.

In New Castle, she says staff in the van received a lot of questions from passing teens from 10:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. along a prime evening cruising strip.

The van drew youthful attention in Indianapolis parked outside the Robinson AME Church on the day a youth conference was being held.

A dance held in the Jay County Seat of Portland also turned out to be a productive venue for the parked van, according to Archey-Morgan.

The effort will continue through mid-December. Cities not yet heard from are Evansville, Jeffersonville, and Richmond.



ISDH YOUTH HIV PREVENTION Community Planning Initiative staff are Cathy Archey-Morgan (left) and Robin Henry. *Photo by Daniel Axler*

She says to get a van visit, all that is needed are dates, times, and places where youth will be gathering.

If you know of prospective times and places where youth will gather, Cathy Archey-Morgan (317-233-7197) or Robin Henry (317-233-7476) would like to hear from you. There are still open dates on the calendar. But Archey-Morgan notes on their flyer, "Don't delay, supplies and time are limited."

"The van goes back to the rental car company December 19," she said.

She also expressed her thanks to the Damien Center, Indianapolis. She says their participation has helped make this youth initiative successful.

— David Pilbrow

Indiana State Department of Health **NewsLink**

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David W. Pilbrow, Editor
Telephone (317) 233-7336
Fax: (317) 233-7873
dpilbrow@isdh.state.in.us
<http://www.statehealth.IN.gov>

— David Pilbrow

Margaret Joseph, Director of Public Affairs

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State Health Commissioner

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Deputy State Health Commissioner